

Gravett
10/002,841

REMARKS

The undersigned acknowledges the courteous treatment received from the Examiner during the course of an interview held on June 9, 2004.

During the interview there was a discussion of how the present invention differs from the art of record, notably the patent to Arnold. In addition, all of the claims as amended were discussed in detail, noting the differences over Arnold.

The Examiner raised the possibility that he would hold that new method claim 4 was drawn to a non-elected species. He suggested that this position might be obviated by including limitations with respect to the icon similar to that appearing in the apparatus claims. To this end, claim 4 has been amended to include such language. In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that claim 4 be examined in this application along with apparatus claims 1-3.

In addition, it was noted during the interview that one of the principal aspects of this invention is that the transfer service means notifies a number of vendors of the product or service to be purchased by the consumer platform, thereby soliciting offers from a number of vendors. This feature does not appear to be suggested in any of the art of record. Language pertaining to this feature has been added to claim 1. Support for such language appears in the middle of page 7 of the specification.

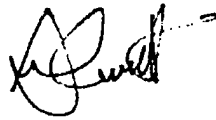
It is noted that method claim 4 in par. e already recites this feature of the invention.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned if any changes are required in order to obtain allowance of the application.

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A favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF FAXING

I hereby certify that this correspondence was previously transmitted via facsimile to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, telephone number 703-872-9306 on June 15, 2004. The identical correspondence was transmitted again — by request of Examiner McClellan — on October 11, 2004.



Antony H. Gravett